

**Military Family Relief Fund  
4141 N. Third Street - Phoenix AZ 85012  
February 25, 2008 – 10a.m.  
Arizona State Veteran Home**

**M I N U T E S**

**Committee Members Present**

John Aldecoa  
Joe Bibich  
Carol Culbertson  
George Cushing  
Jay Gordon  
Randy Meyer  
Charles McCarty  
Joan Sisco  
Danny Thompson, Designee

**Arizona Department of Veterans' Services**

R. Gregg Maxon, Director  
Gabe Forsberg, Plans & Development Manager  
Diane D'Angelo, Outreach Coordinator

**Other Attendees**

Jeff Dollins, Assistant Attorney General  
Rex Nowlan, Interim Section Chief, Administrative  
Law Section, Attorney General's Office

**Absent**

Marcos Andrade  
Margy Bons  
Kathy Pearce  
Jody Reidenhour

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chaplain Thompson called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

**ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Committee members unanimously voted for Joe Bibich to serve as Chair.

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from the January 28, 2008 meeting were approved.

**DONATION FUND AND OUTREACH UPDATE**

Diane D'Angelo reported that as of February 20, 2008, just under \$31,000 has been donated. Donations spiked considerably after an Arizona Republic story about MFRF appeared in late January. A promotional campaign is currently under development and will include collateral materials such as forms and brochures.

Committee Member Bibich suggested that accommodations be made to accept credit card donations.

**FINALIZE APPLICATION AND PROCEDURE MATERIALS**

After reviewing draft copies of the MFRF application and policies, several revisions/additions were suggested, including the following:

- Committee Member Culbertson suggested using simpler language on all documents for improved readability.
- Descriptions of the responsibilities of the Chair and Subcommittee members should be added to section 2-3.
- Add ability to attend meetings via teleconference.
- Under 4-2.c. “with respect to the deceased person” - language needs to be changed to indicate that the number of applicants is restricted to one per service member.
- Under 4-3.a. – “temporary residence” is all that is needed for now. The procedure needs to include “living expenses” (which is contingent upon passage of S.B. 1169).
- Add the following definitions
  - a. Veteran: A former member of the uniformed services of the United States who was discharged under honorable conditions.
  - b. Line of Duty: A finding by the uniformed service that the service member was conducting his/her duty when injured or killed.
  - c. Quorum: the number (as a majority) of officers or members of a body that when duly assembled is legally competent to transact business
- Add financial information section to application.
- Clarify who will sign stipend checks: ADVS Chief Financial Officer or the General Accounting Office.

Jeff Dollins noted that the MFRFAC is obligated by statute to finalize needs prior to approving applications.

Several committee members noted that some aspects of the policies are subject to change pending passage of S.B. 1169 amending ARS §41.608.04. The consensus was to craft the procedures as though the changes will be made and modify them later, if warranted.

ADVS staff will revise the policies and application. On March 10, they will be distributed electronically to MFRFAC members and Jeff Dollins for comment. The documents will subsequently be presented for committee approval at the next MFRFAC meeting.

A quorum was not available to attend the Senate Government Committee meeting at 1:30 today.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m. by acclamation. The next meeting will be held from 10 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. on March 24, 2008 at Arizona State Veteran Home, 4141 N. Third Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85012.

